

REMARKS

Reconsideration and reversal of the rejections expressed in the Office Action of July 28, 2005 are respectfully contended in view of the following remarks and the application as amended. The present invention relates to a method of controlling objectionable odors in and around aqueous systems. The method comprises adding to the aqueous system or spraying into the atmosphere adjacent to the aqueous system an odor control treatment comprising an organic halogen donor species. Typical organic halogen donor species include halogenated succinimides, halogenated hydantoin, halogenated isothiazolines and mixtures thereof.

Claims 1, 6-7, 13 and 18-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lin (WO 99/46350). Lin relates to an aqueous mixture of an odor neutralizer component, an enhancer component for microbial activity, and a microbial component. Note that an important component in Lin is the plant extract yucca schidigera, which as noted at page 3, line 29 – page 4, line 4 of Lin: *“...has been found to be effective for enhancing activity of microorganisms, both introduced and indigenous. Our tests have demonstrated that use of yucca schidigera, in conjunction with microbial strains and other ingredients of the formulations, can significantly enhance the growth of microbes in the treated system, thus increasing the biodegradation of odor sources.”* (emphasis added) In contrast, the present invention does not teach or contemplate the use of such microbial growth enhancers, as reflected in the instant claims as amended. Indeed, in accordance with the present invention, the addition of additional microbial sources would be potentially deleterious to the particular systems (e.g., paper mills, municipal waste treatment plants) to be treated. Therefore, this rejection is overcome.

Claims 8 and 10-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cox et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,106,853. Cox et al. relates to processes for controlling pollution by: (a) devolatilizing vapor phase chemical pollutants (VP's) found in effluents and other bodies and streams of gases and liquids, and (b) stabilizing substrates from which the VP's are released. The primary vapor treating agent/compositions (VTA/C's) are blends of materials, as noted at e.g., column 7, line 57-67 through column 8, lines 1-9 of the reference. In addition, the use of actinic radiation to enhance the processes is emphasized throughout the reference; see, e.g., column 14, lines 59-63 of Cox et al.

In contrast, the present invention does not teach or contemplate the use of such combinations or the use of actinic radiation to enhance its processes, as reflected in the instant claims as amended. Therefore, this rejection is overcome as well.

For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully contended that the solicited claims define patentable subject matter. Reconsideration and reversal of the rejections expressed in the Office Action of July 28, 2005 are respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if any questions arise during the course of reconsideration of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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